

News Release

UMC Develops Korean International Program Partnership

By Don Sargeant on Thursday, November 3, 2005

On October 24, 2005, the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) hosted Kyungwon University (KwU) as part of the establishment of a cooperative relationship to enhance the opportunities for students to study and faculty to teach in their respective universities. Yi Bong, dean of the college of continuing education along with Suh Jung Yoon a professor of continuing education at KwU visited the campus to help introduce and familiarize them with education at UMC.

KwU, established in 1982 and located in Seoul, Korea, has a growing enrollment of 10,756 undergraduate and 1,079 graduate students. The agreement between UMC and KwU promotes the development of a relationship between the two universities and will help increase UMC's international student enrollment and strengthen the educational experience of all students, one of the goals of the strategic planning initiative currently underway throughout the University of Minnesota system including UMC.

After meeting with UMC Chancellor Charles H. Casey and Senior Vice Chancellor Joe Massey, the two were taken on a campus tour, and attended a program review including teaching demonstrations in Business, Information Technology Management, Computer Software Technology, and Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Management. These particular areas are the ones KwU is currently interested in for their students.

It is anticipated that approximately ten students will attend UMC beginning in the spring of 2006 Students from KwU will enroll either in the English as a Second Language (ESL) program for 2 semesters or directly into an academic program at UMC. Sean Shin, director of the ESL program, Chancellor Emeritus, Don Sargeant, and Rae French from the Learning Abroad Center at UMC coordinated the visit and hosted the guests during their visit.

The ESL program began at UMC this fall under Shin's direction and currently has five students from Seoul and Incheon, Korea enrolled in it. For more information on the ESL program or the Study Abroad Center, please contact Don Sargeant by e-mail at sargeant@umn.edu or by phone at 218-281-8442.

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